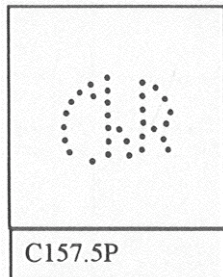


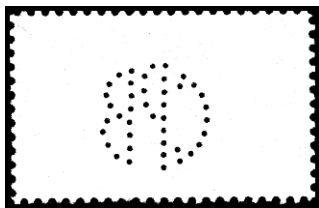
C157.5 P : What Can It Be?

Pat Callis (#2383) and Bob Schwerdt (505L)

A note about U.S. perfin C157.5P in the Supplemental Information section of the U.S. perfins catalog indicates that the editor was informed that the perfin is a personal one. That the design is inverted and incomplete and that catalog information lacks name, date, and location, suggest more possibilities for this perfin.

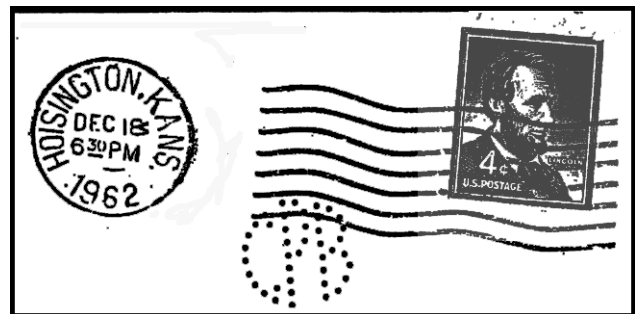


While Bob and I were swapping personals some time ago, we both sought C157.5P. I recalled that I had a similar, but complete pattern on a 1972 issue (Scott 1473). Sure enough, I overlaid the stamp and found a match. The complete pattern is CPB, not ChR.



Then Bob remembered the back of his "C" perfin album where he keeps cancels and other oddball material. He found a photocopy of a 4¢ Lincoln (Scott A483) on small piece with Hoisington, Kans., Dec. 18, 1962 postmark (see photo). The complete pattern is not in the stamp, but in the envelope between the postmark and the stamp. We believe that this suggests some sort of philatelic favor, thus the personal use of the perfin. Incidentally, there is

no listing of a Hoisington, Kans. in the Catalog of United States Perfins by Location.



A call to librarian Doug Turner revealed no member with CPB initials in the 1958-1963 membership directories, though several collectors were living in other Kansas cities at the time.

Since Bob's photocopy of the item in question had Jack Southern's name on the reverse, the assumption was that Jack had reported the personal nature of the perfin to the editor. Jack (now deceased) was Perfins Club Treasurer some years ago. Bob knew that Jack had had perfin correspondence with some prison inmates, so Bob wrote to learn if any state or federal prisons were located near Hoisington that would have used that post office for their mailings. A reply from the Hoisington postmaster provided no information about nearby prisons nor perfin collectors.

Our investigation into the matter of C157.5 P is at a dead end. Any member with C157.5P or the complete pattern CPB on cover or with a town post mark may be able to contribute additional information. We believe that this pattern is a scarce one, personal or otherwise.

Now that the complete pattern is known, the catalog illustration and number will be changed accordingly.